***Pastor Hagop Haroutunian~ Senior Pastor***

***The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian~ Minister Emeritus***

***Mrs. Susan Harrison~ Choir Director and Organist***

***Ms. Souzanne Pope ~ Office Administrator***

**Telephone: (248) 352-0680 - Email:** Office@accdetroit.org.

**11:00 a.m. May 21, 2023**

 **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *# 219 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”*

 *(vs. 1-2 English, vs. 3 Armenian)*

**\*INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (in unison)**

Dear Lord, we rejoice today by celebrating the ascension of Jesus Christ, our Lord. You said in your Word, “It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.” We thank you for the Holy Spirit, whom you sent into our lives and is with us in every aspect of our life. It is you we worship and adore because you died, resurrected, and ascended to heaven. You sat at the right hand of the Father, interceding on our behalf. We give you all the glory and honor, who taught us to pray: “Our Father, Who art in heaven….”

**\*GLORIA PATRI-***#79* *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**RESPONSIVE READING:** *Ascension*

**PASTOR:** When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.

**PEOPLE:** **They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly, two men dressed in white stood beside them.**

**PASTOR:** “Men of Galilee,” they said, “Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus who has been taken from you, into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

 **PEOPLE: Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem, with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.**

**PASTOR:** Such a high priest meets our needs -- one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.

**PEOPLE:** **Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.**

**PASTOR:** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - - yet was without sin.

**UNISON:** **Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** *#7 “Lord, I Lift Your Name On High”*

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *Acts 1:1-11 (pp. 1690-1691)*

**ENGLISH SERMON: The Glorious Ascension of Jesus**

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *Luke 24:50-53 (p. 1644)*

 **ARMENIAN SERMON: The Blessing of Ascension**

**\*HAYR MER:** *#275*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** *"Park Kéz Dér, Asdvadz Mér"*

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

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**\*Congregation is requested to stand. \*\*\* Latecomers may be seated.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE WELCOME ALL WHO ARE WORSHIPPING WITH US,** especially guests. We extend a very cordial welcome to newcomers to take part in the worship, to engage in the activities of the church, and make this your church home.

**CHURCH JOYS AND CONCERNS:** Please continue praying for Susan Mousigian, Dr. Richard Marburger, George and Ann Krikorian, Jan Janigian, and Glenn Harrison.

**MONDAY PRAYER AND FELLOWSHIP** is held every Monday via zoom at 6:30p.m.

**WEDNESDAY BI-WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY** will be held May 24th at 6:30p.m. in person and online via Zoom app.

**MEN’S AND WOMEN’S BREAKFAST AND FELLOWSHIP**  will be held Saturday, June 3rd at 10:00 a.m. in person and online via Zoom app. After breakfast, the men and women will break into their own separate Bible Study groups at around 10:45 a.m.

**GRADUATES OF 2023** ACC would like to honor our graduates by publishing their names and degrees in the weekly bulletin on Sunday, June 11th. Please submit the insert to the Church Office or email the names of your loved ones graduating this year from Elementary School, Middle School, High School, College, Graduate or post Graduate School. Deadline for submission is June 7th.

**SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON**

After forty days being with His disciples and others who believed in Him, Jesus prepared them for the ascension before his departure back to heaven, where He came from. He accomplished the mission the Father had given Him, to save the world from death and damnation, by shedding His blood on the cross, resurrecting on the third day, and at last, ascending back to the Father.

**Here are a few points about the ascension of Jesus:**

1. **“You are witnesses of these things.”** Jesus had one last word, before ascending to the Father, and all those who witnessed His resurrected body for forty days are now to share and declare it to the world. This includes us, who have come to believe in the Lord. Our testimony about Christ’s resurrection comes by the power of the Holy Spirit, who lives in us. When we are filled by Him every day, our testimony becomes more and more powerful and effective.

2. **“They worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.”** If there is one person that deserves to be worshiped, it would be Jesus. The 500 plus witnesses who saw the resurrected Christ had witnessed His sacrificial love on the cross; and it is only natural that they worshiped Him, before He ascended to heaven, before their very eyes. We also join them in worshiping the risen Lord because He also saved us from the power of sin and death.

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**INFORMATION**

Please tear off and place in the prayer box in the narthex.

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 I have recently moved into this area I have moved, new address:

 I am interested in membership I wish to be on the mailing list

 I would appreciate a visit from the minister This person is sick

 Requesting prayer for\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Need Counseling